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**Note: This event is Art in Bloom, a free tour featuring West Lafayette gardens and artists on Saturday, June 26; it *not* Art in the Gardens, a June 20 event in Lafayette.**

#### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

#### **FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT**

Lynn Layden, Master Gardener and City of West Lafayette Volunteer: 765/463-2242  
Chandler Poole, West Lafayette Director of Development: 765/775-5162

#### **Advance photo/taping opportunity:**

If you would like to photograph or tape a homeowner and artist in the garden in advance of the event, please contact: Marlene Hodge: 765/463-1723

#### **Artists, gardens to be featured in free West Lafayette tour June 27**

West Lafayette, Ind. – June 5, 2009 – The City of West Lafayette is showcasing eight local artists and six award-winning gardens in the Hills & Dales and Northwestern Heights neighborhoods at Art in Bloom, a free home-garden tour, Saturday, June 27, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m..

The public is invited to pick up a tour map at the home of Ann Hunt, 1149 Hillcrest Road, showing the location of the six homes on the tour, which will have red balloons and a planter of red flowers in the front yard. Each of the gardens is a previous winner of a West Lafayette Beautification Award.

Each home will feature an artist or two who will display their artwork, demonstrate their creative process and offer items for sale. Those participating are: Ken Featherstone and Vicki Willis, both West Lafayette watercolorists; and from Lafayette, Marsha Castello, who works with watercolors, acrylic and mixed media; stoneware potter Mary Firestone; Janet Mummey, who creates clay pottery and will demonstrate pot carving; Jeff Smith, an oil painter and bonsai designer; Craig Whitten, who works in mixed media and will demonstrate painting with henna; and photographer Barbara Willis.

Castello, Firestone, Mummey and Vicki Willis are also Master Gardeners.

Another 40 homes in the two neighborhoods have red bows in their yards, honoring them as previous winners of the city's Beautification Award, a program that began in 2004. Those gardens are not part of the tour, but may be appreciated from the street.

Art in Bloom is hosted by the City of West Lafayette and the Tippecanoe County Master Gardener Association with sponsorship assistance from Helen magazine.

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